

### FOCH PROMISES PLAYGROUND FOR EVERY D. C. CHILD

Chairman of House District  
Committee to introduce Bill  
in Congress at Once.

PERMITS TAKING OVER  
OF ANY VACANT LOTS

Credits Col. Livingston With New  
Idea—Puts Plan Before  
Commissioners.

Plenty of playgrounds for the children in every section of the city is the purpose behind a bill which Chairman Foch of the House District committee says he will introduce either today or tomorrow.

"We cannot tear down big brick buildings so as to get playgrounds exactly where we want them adjoining school properties," said Mr. Foch, "and to meet this situation my bill will provide for taking over any vacant lot in any part of the city that the District authorities desire to use for a playground."

"No matter who is owner of the property, I propose that we take it under an act of Congress for the use of the children until such time as the owner of the property can provide to us a bona fide intention of building upon it."

Representative Foch said that he has written to the District authorities asking them to draft a bill along these lines so that it will adequately cover any properties they desire to use for playgrounds.

Information furnished representative Foch shows that Washington is lagging behind in providing playground facilities for its boys and girls. In Boston, where the playground idea originated in the United States, there are three times as many city-operated playgrounds as in Washington, it is said, and in New York, there are more than half again as large. In other Massachusetts cities the playground idea is well worked out.

Many other cities of equal or larger population than Washington show rapid growth in playgrounds, it is stated.

### PLAYGROUNDS IN OTHER CITIES.

In Minneapolis, which has a population about equal to that of the District, there are eighteen municipally operated playgrounds. Des Moines, with a population one-fourth of this city, has eighteen playgrounds. Harrisburg, Pa., whose population is one-sixth of that of this city, has the same number. Sacramento, Calif., with 75,000 inhabitants, has just as many public playgrounds as Washington.

Mrs. Susie Root Rhodes, supervisor of playgrounds, said this afternoon that she had not been informed of the bill, but that she was in favor of it.

### EXPECT PRESIDENT TO APPOINT TYLER

Major May Be Named to Map  
Water Conservation  
Plans.

Maj. M. C. Tyler, District engineer, is expected to be appointed by President Harding to head the water conservation commission. The bill, which is being introduced by Representative Foch, provides for the appointment of a commission to study the water situation in the District and to make recommendations for the conservation of water.

Secretary to the President, George B. Christian, Jr., has given considerable study to the water situation and has recommended that Maj. Tyler be given authority to handle the matter.

### DEFEAT OF TYRKS MAY FORCE PEACE

Greeks Pursue Enemy Following Decisive Victory at Eski-Shehr.

ATHENS, July 23 (Greek Official Agency).—The Greeks in Asia Minor have been following energetically the victory they gained over the Turkish nationalists in the fighting brought on by the attempt of the Kemalists to recapture the key-point of Eski-Shehr, on the Bagdad railway, according to official advices from the fighting front received here.

The Greeks captured forty guns and took a great number of prisoners, the announcement was made. Within a short time after the close of the battle and the definite repulse of the Turkish effort to recapture Eski-Shehr, the enemy forces were retreating toward the interior.

The official statement issued by the staff in Asia Minor on July 22, giving the result of the battle for Eski-Shehr, says:

"The great battle for Eski-Shehr ended in a Greek victory. The Turkish forces were repulsed with a loss of more than forty-five kilometers. The Turkish forces were repulsed with a loss of more than forty-five kilometers. The Turkish forces were repulsed with a loss of more than forty-five kilometers."

### BANDITS HOLD UP TRAIN.

Daring Robbery of Passenger Coaches in France.

CHAGNY, France, July 23.—Three masked men held up and robbed the first class passenger Paris-Marseilles express train near here early today. The bandits shot dead one man who refused to raise his hands and wounded another.

After securing a quantity of booty the bandits pulled the signal cord and jumped off as the train was slowing down a mile outside of Chagny, making their escape before the train crew became alarmed.

### ECONOMY TO DROP FEDERAL WORKERS

Further Reductions in Government Personnel Will Be Made.

Reductions in the number of government employees, especially those assigned to the District of Columbia, are likely to follow as one of the means of reducing expenses with the view to bringing about a suitable tax reduction, according to Chairman Fordney of the House ways and means committee, who conferred with the President today.

According to Mr. Fordney, there were 50,000 persons on the government's payroll in Washington alone on March 31, last, compared to less than 25,000 at the outbreak of the war. This indicated to him that there is much room for slashing in the name of economy.

"Pre-war Level Impossible."

"Of course, I do not believe that the number of federal employees in the National Capital can be reduced to the pre-war level," Mr. Fordney stated, "but we can make substantial reductions in the force without crippling the governmental machinery or reducing efficiency."

The government is maintaining a substantial force of clerks at the United States Railroad Administration, he continued, "where services can be easily dispensed with just as soon as the affairs of the railroads, growing out of governmental control, are turned over to private hands. The millions upon millions of public moneys squandered in the name of the Shipping Board, which will be reduced. There will be less money spent for the Navy and Army, and with the present level of disarmament, the chances are especially bright for a still lighter budget than will be borne by the American people."

### Tax Law Passage.

Chairman Fordney intimated that the passage of the tax bill is less than a month's time, in the bill which is being introduced by Representative Foch, it is stated that the bill will be introduced in the House of Representatives.

### APPOINTMENT OF OFFICES LAW

Unsound in Principle, Vicious in Practice; Hurtful to Nation and Capital in War and Peace; Helpful to Nobody.

Editorial Correspondence of The Star.

THEODORE W. NOYES.

I.

The appointment of offices law, which distributes the classified service offices like bandit spoils among the population, is a relic of the war and reconstruction periods demonstrated doubly its viciousness; first when the human-service machinery was being enlarged and developed to high efficiency in order that we might surely and quickly bring victory in the world struggle; and now, when the vastly expanded war-service force is being reduced to the peace basis.

### CONSUMPTION DROPS.

District government officials say these preliminary efforts are reflected in the July water consumption figures. In June, the highest single day's consumption was 27,780,000 gallons; the lowest, 22,570,000. This month the maximum consumption figure is 20,800,000 gallons; the minimum, 16,140,000.

### Today's News in Paragraphs

Chairman Foch of House District committee proposes plan for playgrounds for every child in city. Page 1.

Valera's cabinet take up British proposals. Page 2.

President may name Maj. Tyler to draw up water conservation plans. Page 1.

Committee to hear complaints of engraving bureau discharges. Page 2.

Injunction halts seizure of ships by government. Page 3.

President back at desk after delightful week end outing. Page 3.

Prevention of malaria cure new goal in fighting physicians, says Rockefeller Foundation head. Page 4.

Government redoubles vigilance to get gun smugglers off coast. Page 4.

Wood-Purvis mission to Philippines nears end of trip. Page 5.

Maj. L. A. Fischer, U. S. scientist, dies. Page 7.

Karl Krietsch killed and Pilot Stewart hurt in airplane fall. Page 13.

1919 incomes here highest per capita, figures show. Page 20.

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### Law a Failure in War-Time.

Heavy additional wartime labors at the capital called for more and more civilian Americans to do this essential work. What was the natural labor source of supply to meet this increased demand? First, of course, the local source, the Americans nearest at hand, the Americans already locally housed and acquainted with local conditions and facilities, which enabled them to live here more easily, and so far from being a burden, they were in the classified service were concerned, in what condition did they find themselves?

### Law Necessarily Suspended.

But Uncle Sam, finding himself crippled by the law in the campaign for efficiency in war preparedness, in effect suspended the law in the name of emergency during the war emergency. Now, when the time has come to reduce the classified service to the peace basis, the law is called to the fact that the District and the nearby states have more than their quota of the classified service. The law is called to the fact that the District and the nearby states have more than their quota of the classified service.

### Law Violated in Both War and Peace.

As in building up the war force the law had to be disregarded in order that the government might be able to get the necessary personnel, so in the peace time the law is being violated in order that the government might be able to get the necessary personnel.

### Hurtful Both to Capital and Nation.

Uncle Sam, while wisely suspending the law in war for his own (and his) benefit, has not learned from his war observation and experience how wickedly discriminating, inequitable and injurious it is at a time when the government is helping the people of the capital community.

### Consistent Policy of Congress.

The consistent policy of Congress, as state and city legislature for the capital, has been to discourage local factories and industrial plants and, in effect, to prohibit all manufacturing industries except those of the government, like the government printing office, the bureau of engraving and printing and all the great government departments which correspond to other industrial plants in the American cities.

### Must Go Abroad to Get Work.

It compels a showing of residence outside the District to get this employment in the District. It requires the government to pay for the maintenance and secure residence abroad in order to get this kind of work at home.

### Violates the Merit System.

Second, by violating the merit system, it strikes at the main factor as distinguished from the spoils system. It strikes at the main factor as distinguished from the spoils system. It strikes at the main factor as distinguished from the spoils system.

### FATHER SUPPORTS CAMPBELL'S STORY

Says Major Accused by Mrs. Bergdoll Got Money From Racehorse Man.

William R. Campbell of Lexington, Ky., father of Maj. Bruce R. Campbell, charged with accepting \$5,000 from Mrs. Emma C. Bergdoll to aid in obtaining freedom for Grover Bergdoll, told a House committee investigating Bergdoll's escape today that the major was telling the truth last week when he testified about a five-hundred-dollar investment increasing to six thousand dollars. Maj. Campbell said this accounted for a deposit to his account of \$4,500 at about the time of the alleged payment.

### Johnson's Mail Opened.

Mr. Campbell was examined first by his son, who had previously testified that the money was kept in his home during the war and placed last year with a Wall Street house and lost in speculation. The father said he did not know what form of speculation the \$500 took in Mr. Young's hands. He said the fund grew from race track winnings.

### Shows, said Mr. Johnson, "that while some of the well-known enemies of our country, they also are opening mines to get to get at the bottom of this case."

### He Speculated on Anything.

"You mean to say that your son, without being told for what purpose it was to be used and without taking a receipt, gave Young \$500 for speculation?" John H. Sherburne, committee counsel, asked.

### Telegram From Bank.

While the committee was in session, Mr. Campbell received a telegram from the Ford National Bank at New York saying that in 1917 there was deposited with the bank \$5,000, the wife of the late Maj. Campbell, his wife. The telegram corroborated Maj. Campbell's testimony last week to the effect that the money was given to him by his father.

### Obstacle to the Merit System.

Third, the law obstructs national representation, that is, voting representation in Congress and the electoral college, by compelling the residence in a state by those who are, in fact, permanent residents in the District. It tends to foster the curse of alien non-permanent population upon the District. It substitutes the expensive, troublesome and precarious representation of a disloyal and unrepresentative minority for the direct representation of the whole community.

### When is a Confidential Telegram Not a Confidential Telegram?

This question has been puzzling Secretary of Labor Davis. Learning that some of his telegrams on various governmental matters were leaking out, the Labor Secretary recently adopted a new method of thwarting the ambitions of those who read his confidential wires.

### OPPOSITION IN HOUSE TO CONTINUOUS SESSION

Mondell Says Recess Would Be Mistake—Mann Fears Effect of Dog Days.

Opposition to remaining in session continuously until the revenue bill is ready for consideration developed today in the House among both republicans and democrats. Representative Mondell, the republican leader, however, declared emphatically it would be a mistake to take an extended recess at this time.

### INJUNCTION HALTS SEIZURE OF SHIPS

Attorneys Wilson and Colby Appear for U. S. Mail Company.

NEW YORK, July 23.—A temporary injunction restraining the United States Shipping Board, the Emergency Fleet Corporation and the United States Mail Company from interfering with the operation of the ships seized Friday by Judge William P. Burr of the state supreme court, was issued today by Judge William P. Burr of the state supreme court.

### WORKERS TO HAVE LOS JOB HEARING

Mr. Mellon's Committee Will Consider Cases in Bureau of Engraving-Printing.

Charges of discrimination and unfairness in recent discharges at the bureau of engraving and printing are to be aired before a committee appointed by Secretary of the Treasury Mellon Thursday morning at 10 o'clock. Controller of the Currency Crissinger is chairman of the committee.

### FIRE DESTROYS SHIP.

British Schooner, Aodian Queen, Burns Off Bahamas.

PURKES ISLAND, Bahamas, July 24.—The Aodian Queen, a British schooner of 491 gross tons, was destroyed by fire Saturday night. The crew was saved. The vessel was laden with salt. The cause of the fire is not known.

### MR. CHILD IN ROME.

American Ambassador Arrives to Take Up Duties.

ROME, July 23.—Richard Washburn Child, newly appointed American ambassador to Italy, arrived here last evening, accompanied by his family and his secretary.

### VALERA TAKES UP BRITISH PROPOSAL

Countess Markievicz, Freed From Prison, Has Share in Deliberations.

DUBLIN, July 23.—The Irish peace proposals made by Premier Lloyd George to Eamon de Valera in London last week were taken up by the republican leader and his cabinet today.

### READY TO FREE PRISONERS.

Britain Will Make Possible Full Attendance of Dail Eireann.

LONDON, July 23.—If Mr. De Valera decides to summon the Dail Eireann a full attendance will be possible, as the British government is willing to release the prisoners in exchange for the release of the republican leader, already made, and the release of the republican leader, already made, and the release of the republican leader, already made.

### CONFIDENCE PLEASES.

Vote of Italian Deputies Passes All Expectations.

ROME, July 24.—The victory of the government in the chamber of deputies Saturday, when it received a vote of confidence, has been hailed as a triumph. The vote was 166-160, on its declaration of policy, passed all expectations.

### AGENDA IN PARLEY ON DISARMAMENT

Important Point of Suggestions.

Japan is ready to accept America's invitation to participate in the disarmament conference in accepting the invitation Japan does not bind herself to discuss anything which she wishes to exclude from the scope of the conference, such as questions relating to Shantung or Yap, or other matters which Japan may consider to have been closed by the time the conference begins.

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### TAKE OFF PASSENGERS.

Fire Scare on Steamer Maryland Forces Quick Action.

NORFOLK, Va., July 25.—Passengers aboard the N. Y. P. and N. steamship Maryland, which left Norfolk yesterday, were put ashore at Old Point yesterday when smoke rose in large volumes from the hold. It was some time before it was discovered that a piece of waste was smoldering and that the fire was caused by a short circuit in the oil and water in the bilges. The passengers were taken aboard again and the steamer continued her trip.

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